



JUSTICE LEAGUE

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WITH THESE CLASSIC GRAPHIC NOVELS



JUSTICE LEAGUE:
THEIR GREATEST TRIUMPHS



JUSTICE LEAGUE VOL. 1:
ORIGIN



JUSTICE LEAGUE VOL. 1:
THE EXTINCTION MACHINES

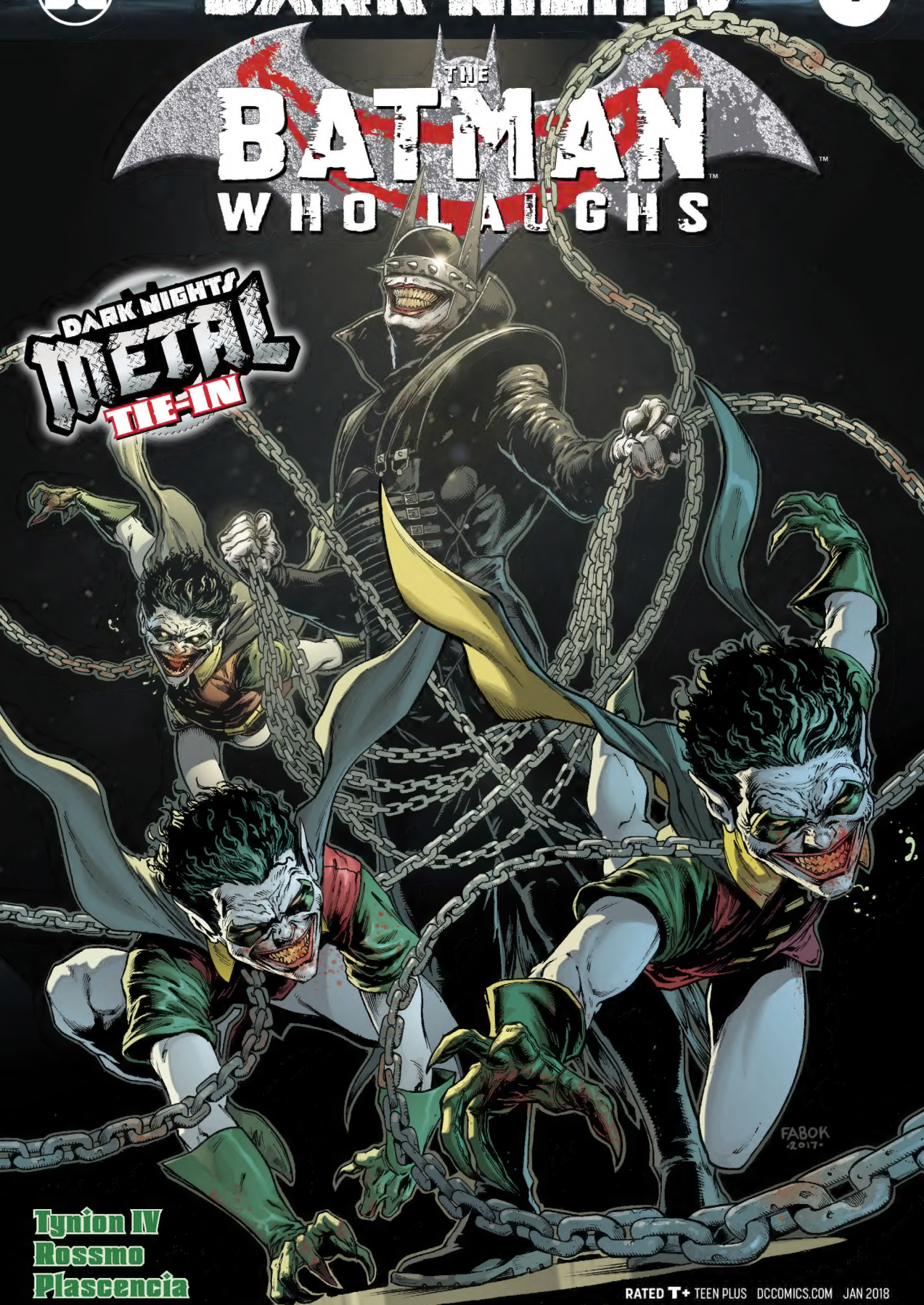


DARK NIGHTS

1

THE BATMAN WHO LAUGHS

DARK NIGHTS
MEET
TIE-IN



Tynion IV
Rossmo
Plascencia

RATED **T+** TEEN PLUS DCCOMICS.COM JAN 2018



I KNOW YOU'RE SCARED RIGHT NOW.

YOU DON'T NEED TO PRETEND, I CAN SEE YOU TREMBLING. YOU DON'T KNOW WHY I BROUGHT YOU HERE, BUT YOU KNOW THE ANSWER CAN'T BE GOOD.

AND YOU'RE RIGHT. IT'S NOT.



YOU REALLY THOUGHT YOU HAD IT ALL FIGURED OUT, THAT YOU KNEW EVERY COMBINATION IN THE DECK.

AND IT WOULD THRILL YOU EVERY TIME YOU WERE RIGHT, WHEN THE HAND CAME DOWN IN A FAMILIAR PATTERN. A FAMILIAR STORY...



ABOUT AN OUTSIDER WHO CAN SEE THE GOOD IN ALL OF US.



ABOUT HOW WE ALL HAVE THE POWER TO FIGHT FOR WHAT IS RIGHT.



OR HOW WE CAN EACH OVERCOME OUR DARKEST MOMENTS.



BUT THIS ISN'T ANY OF THOSE STORIES. THERE ARE FAMILIAR PARTS, BUT THEY'RE ALL IN THE WRONG PLACES.

AND THERE'S NOTHING MORE FRIGHTENING THAN WHEN ALL THE CARDS LAY OUT ON THE TABLE JUST RIGHT...



BUT THEN ANOTHER CARD COMES AND CHANGES THE MEANING OF THE ENTIRE HAND...



AND THERE'S NO WAY TO KNOW WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN NEXT.

EARTH -22.
GOTHAM CITY.
MANY YEARS AGO.

BOOM

WHICH ONE
WAS THAT, BATSSSS?
MERCY HOSPITAL? OR MAYBE
GOTHAM GENERAL...IT'S
HARD TO KEEP THE CHAOS
STRAIGHT THIS LATE IN
THE GAME.

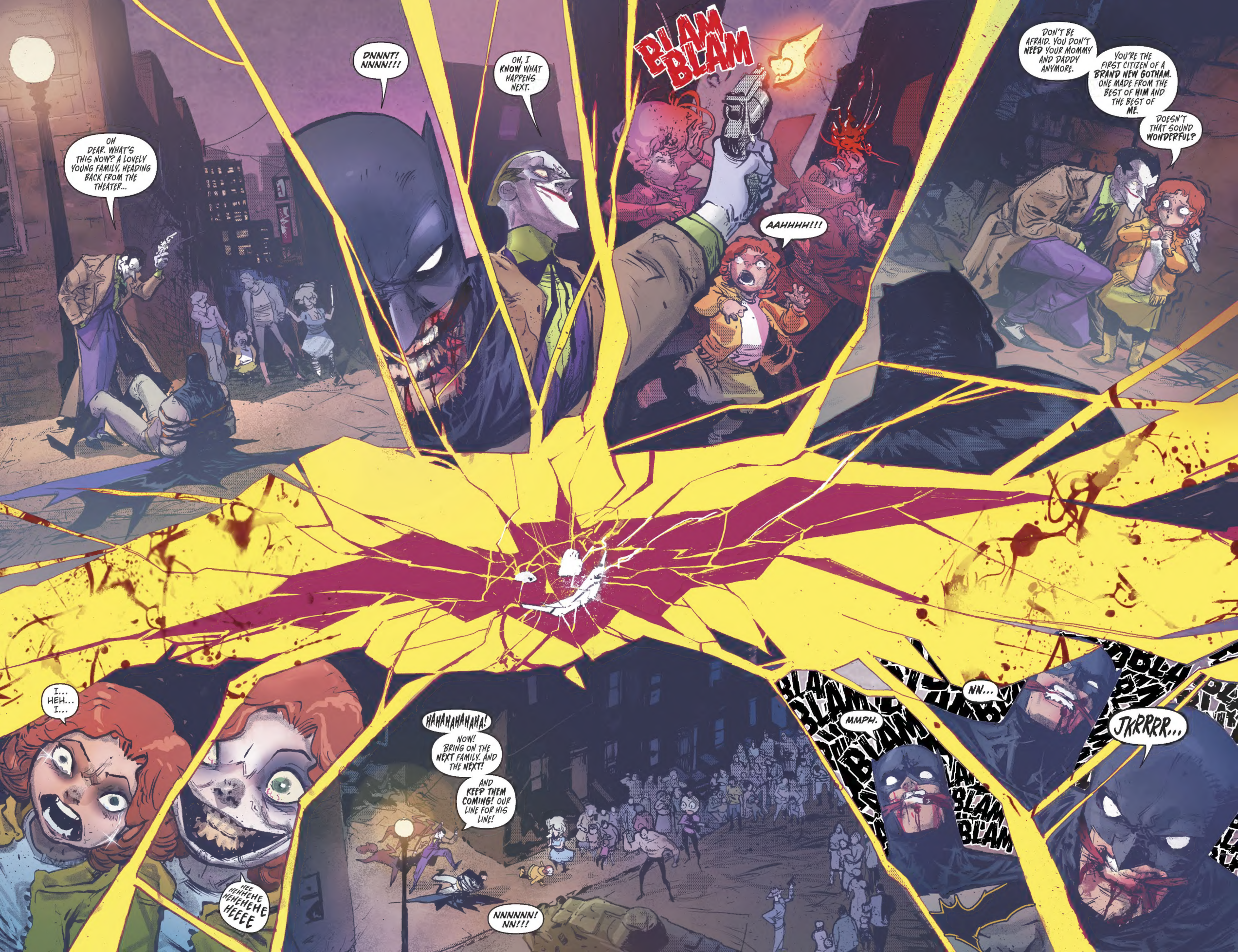


THE BATMAN WHO LAUGHS

JAMES TYNION IV WRITER RILEY ROSSMO ARTIST
IVAN PLASCENCIA COLORS TOM NAPOLITANO LETTERS
JASON FABOK & BRAD ANDERSON COVER
DAVE WIELGOSZ ASSISTANT EDITOR
REBECCA TAYLOR ASSOCIATE EDITOR
EDDIE BERGANZA EDITOR



BATMAN CREATED BY BOB KANE WITH BILL FINGER.
SUPERMAN CREATED BY JERRY SIEGEL AND JOE SHUSTER.
BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH THE JERRY SIEGEL FAMILY.



OH DEAR. WHAT'S THIS NOW? A LOVELY YOUNG FAMILY, HEADING BACK FROM THE THEATER...

DNNNT! NNNN!!!

OH, I KNOW WHAT HAPPENS NEXT.

BLAM BLAM

AAHHHH!!!

DON'T BE AFRAID. YOU DON'T NEED YOUR MOMMY AND DADDY ANYMORE.

YOU'RE THE FIRST CITIZEN OF A BRAND NEW GOTHAM. ONE MADE FROM THE BEST OF HIM AND THE BEST OF ME.

DOESN'T THAT SOUND WONDERFUL?

I... HEH... I...

HEE HEHEHE HEHEHE HEEEEE

HAHAHAHAHAHA!
NOW! BRING ON THE NEXT FAMILY. AND THE NEXT!

AND KEEP THEM COMING! OUR LINE FOR HIS LINE!

NNNNNN! NN!!!

MMPH.

NN...

JKRRRR...

RAAAAAHHH!!!

JOKER!

NEVER!

I'LL NEVER STOP!

AND HERE WE GO...

STOP!

I'LL KEEP UNH!...COMING THIS WAY NOW...

STOP!!!

YOUR FAMILY JACK! NEXT! HAHANA!!!!

=HUFF HUFF=

NO... YOU'LL STOP.

STOP!!!

STOP!

UNH! NO, I'LL KEEP...



NEVER!
=UNGH!=

HAHAHA. YOU
STILL DON'T HAVE THE
GUTS, BRUCE... DO YOU?!
NO... HEEEEE... IT'S GOING
TO BE YOU AND ME,
TOGETHER
FOREV--

STOP!

ERRRRRRR.....

...STOP...
STOP...

TWO DAYS LATER.

HE WAS DYING, CLARK.

THE **CHEMICALS** THAT MADE HIM THE JOKER, THEY WERE STARTING TO EAT HIM AWAY FROM THE INSIDE. THAT'S WHAT **PUSHED** HIM TO TAKE THINGS SO FAR... WHY HE PUSHED ME...

ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

IF YOU'RE ASKING WHETHER I'M GOING TO SLIDE DOWN THE SLIPPERY SLOPE... NO.

I'M NOT SORRY HE'S DEAD, BUT I WON'T GIVE HIM THE SATISFACTION OF BECOMING WHAT HE **WANTED** ME TO BE.

THAT'S ALL I NEEDED TO HEAR, BRUCE.

I'VE SPOKEN TO S.T.A.R. LABS IN METROPOLIS ABOUT TAKING THE CHILDREN IN. WITH ARKHAM DESTROYED AND THE GCPD IN RUINS... IT SEEMS THE LEAST WE CAN DO.

HE SAID HE WANTED TO MAKE SOMETHING **NEW** OUT OF THE "BEST" OF BOTH OF US. MY **TRAUMA** AND HIS, BLENDED TOGETHER... THEY MIGHT BE **BEYOND SAVING**, CLARK.

I CAN'T BELIEVE THAT. **NO ONE** IS BEYOND SAVING.

I'LL BE ADMINISTERING THEIR TREATMENT **MYSELF**. THEY NEED TO DEAL WITH SOMEONE THEY CAN'T HURT.

A PSYCHOLOGIST SPOKE TO ONE OF THEM THIS AFTERNOON, AND SHE TRIED TO BITE HER THROAT OUT.

HA!

I'M... I'M SORRY. THAT **WASN'T...** FUNNY.

THREE DAYS LATER.

YOU'VE GOT TO BE JOKING. MORE ROBOTS?

SINCE WHEN HAS A SINGLE TRAINING PROTOCOL LASTED **THREE HOURS**?!

WHAT I WANNA KNOW, **BATGIRL**, IS WHAT **ROBIN** DID TO GET OUT OF THE SPARRING SESSION FROM HELL.

NIGHTWING. I THINK BRUCE ADDED A **NEW DIFFICULTY LEVEL**... THEY'VE **NEVER** BEEN THIS DANGEROUS BEFORE.

WATCH OUT!

NO KIDDING, RED ROBIN. WE STILL NEED A STRATEGY. RED HOOD?

DON'T LOOK AT ME. IT'S BULLETPROOF.

THIS IS **BATMAN** WE'RE TALKING ABOUT. YOU'RE GOING TO NEED TO SHUT IT DOWN MANUALLY.

HEY, BATMAN?

APPRECIATE YOU BRUSHING UP OUR BASICS... BUT IT'S BEEN **YEARS** SINCE YOU BROUGHT ANY OF US IN TO TRAIN IN THE CAVE.

BIAM

SOMETHING'S WRONG. TALK TO US, BRUCE. WE'RE FAMILY.

YOU'RE RIGHT, DICK...

I'VE BEEN STALLING. BUT THERE'S NO HIDING FROM THE TRUTH.

WHEN I...WHEN I **KILLED** THE JOKER, I WAS **INFECTED** WITH A NEW STRAIN OF NANOTOXIN UNLIKE ANYTHING I'VE SEEN BEFORE.

IT WAS THERE ALL ALONG... IN HIS **HEART**, MORE VIRULENT THAN ANYTHING HE'D EVER UNLEASHED. **TRAPPED** IN HIS CELLS, HARMLESS UNLESS...

UNLESS HE DIED.

YES, BARBARA. AS SOON AS NECROSIS HIT, THE TOXIN WAS **RELEASED**. JUST ENOUGH TO INFECT **ONE** PERSON, IN CLOSE PROXIMITY...

BRUCE...

IT'S BEEN AT WORK FOR NEARLY A WEEK, **REWIRING** MY MIND TO MAKE IT MORE LIKE...**HIS**.

IF THE PROCESS IS ALLOWED TO RUN ITS COURSE, I'LL HAVE THE SAME **HIGHLY ORDERED** MIND I'VE ALWAYS HAD, WITH THE **MORAL CORE** REPLACED WITH SOMETHING **EVIL**.

IT WAS HIS **LAST WISH**, THAT WHOEVER KILLED HIM WOULD **BECOME** HIM.

HAVE YOU TOLD ANYONE ELSE?

NO, I WANTED TO BE **SURE**, TIM. I CONFIRMED MY SUSPICIONS EARLIER TONIGHT, AND CALLED ALL OF YOU HERE.

THE TRAINING...IT WASN'T FOR THE USUAL VILLAINS, WAS IT? YOU WERE MAKING SURE WE WERE READY TO FIGHT **YOU**.

GOD, BRUCE. WE'RE NOT GOING TO **FIGHT** YOU. WE'RE GOING TO **HELP** YOU.

OKAY. LET'S PROBLEM SOLVE. WE NEED A PRISON YOU CAN'T BREAK OUT OF UNTIL WE FIND A CURE.

MAYBE THE PHANTOM ZONE.

NO... THAT WON'T WORK.



THEN
WE'LL FIND
ANOTHER
WAY.

LOOK, WE
WERE TRAINED BY
THE WORLD'S GREATEST
DETECTIVE. **NONE** OF
US ARE GOING TO
REST UNTIL YOU'RE
PUT RIGHT.

AND IF YOU'RE
WORRIED ABOUT THE
CITY, WE'LL WORK IN SHIFTS,
HELPING THEM THROUGH
THE CHAOS, POST-JOKER.



NO, YOU DON'T
UNDERSTAND...

YES, WE
DO, BRUCE.
WE'VE **ALL** BEEN
HURT BY THAT
MONSTER
BEFORE.

THIS IS JUST ONE
OF THE JOKER'S
GAMES. THE
LAST ONE.

YOU
PREPARED
US FOR
THIS.

I **KNOW**.
THAT'S WHY I
BROUGHT YOU
HERE.

WELL,
WE'RE HERE
TO HELP.

NO, NOT TO **HELP**,
JASON. I BROUGHT YOU
HERE BECAUSE THE FOUR
OF YOU WOULD **NOTICE**
SOMETHING WAS **WRONG**
WITH ME BEFORE
ANYONE ELSE
WOULD.

AND I'M
SORRY, BUT I
CAN'T ALLOW
THAT.

BRUCE?

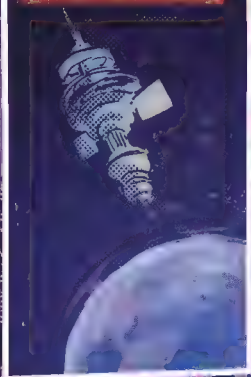
WHAT
ARE YOU...
WHAT'RE YOU
DOING?



SOMETHING
YOU WEREN'T
PREPARED
FOR.

HAHAHAHA!

ONE WEEK LATER.
THE WATCHTOWER.



I'VE BEEN THINKING A LOT THE LAST FEW DAYS, ABOUT THE MAN I WAS.

BRUCE...

I JUST WALKED THROUGH THE JUSTICE LEAGUE TROPHY ROOM, AND IT STRUCK ME HOW MANY **WEAPONS** WE'VE GATHERED OVER THE YEARS.

I REMEMBER HOW I JUSTIFIED BRINGING THEM HERE.

YOU THOUGHT THEY SHOULD BE DESTROYED, BUT I **PUSHED**. I WANTED TO KNOW HOW THEY **WORKED**.

AND I DO, SUPERMAN. I KNOW HOW TO OPERATE DOOMSDAY MACHINES THAT COULD **LEVEL CITIES** IN SECONDS.

THEY USED TO KEEP ME UP AT NIGHT, BUT I DIDN'T KNOW WHY. NOW THAT MY MIND'S BEEN PUT **RIGHT**, I FINALLY UNDERSTAND. IT'S SO **SIMPLE**.

I WANTED TO **USE** THEM, CLARK.

I WANTED TO **USE EACH AND EVERY ONE** OF THEM.

BUT WHY... WHY HAVE YOU **DONE THIS**?

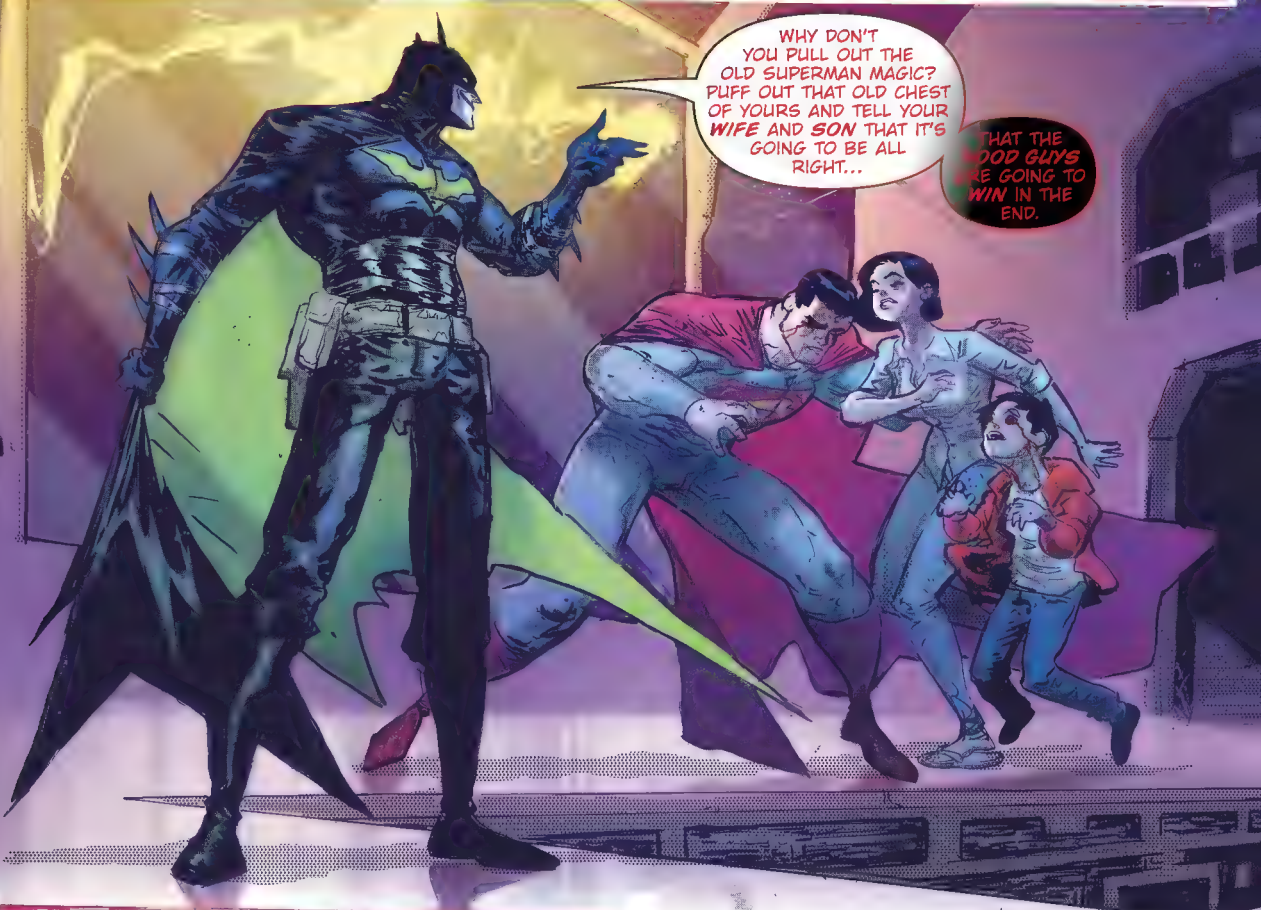
THE **SAME** REASON. BECAUSE I **WANT** TO. BECAUSE I DON'T HAVE TO **HOLD BACK** ANYMORE.

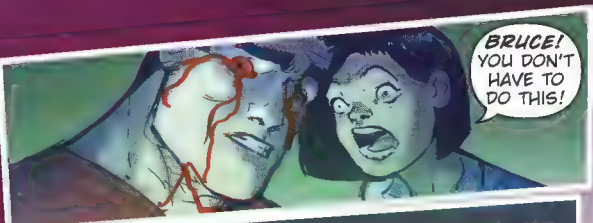
THE PEOPLE...THEY'LL SEE WHAT YOU ARE. THEY'LL **FIGHT BACK**.

HELL, I'M DISAPPOINTED I ONLY GET TO DO THIS **ONCE**. DO YOU REALIZE HOW MANY WAYS I KNOW HOW TO **KILL YOU**?

THEY **BETTER**.

WHAT **FUN** WOULD IT BE IF THEY DIDN'T **FIGHT BACK**?





"NO MATTER WHAT THEY THREW AT ME—ARMIES OF VILLAINS, ALIEN TYRANTS, THE WRATH OF GOD—THEY WERE ALL JUST PROBLEMS TO SOLVE, ONE BY ONE, METHODICALLY, WITH PRECISION, AND BLOOD."

"UNTIL THE WORLD WAS AWAY UNDER MY FEET, UNTIL THE FIRMAMENT BEGAN TO SHAKE AND COSMIC NOTHING SWALLOWED EVERYTHING I KNEW."



"IT FELT RIGHT."



"I HAD SERVED MY GREATER PURPOSE. THERE WAS NO COWER TO SINK."



"OR WAS THERE?"



"BARBATOS SHOWED ME THE DARK MULTIVERSE: VOLATILE AND ROLLING WITH COSMIC HORROR."

"IT WAS BEAUTIFUL."



"I SAW HOW SMALL I HAD BEEN THINKING. THERE WERE COUNTLESS WORLDS LEFT TO KILL."



"AND ONE WORLD ABOVE THEM ALL, WHERE BATMAN LIVED. THE BATMAN."

"BARBATOS SAID I WAS THE PERFECT WEAPON TO UNLEASH UPON THIS WORLD, TO DRAG IT KICKING AND SCREAMING INTO THE DARK."



"BUT I WOULDN'T BE IT ALONE."



"HOW COULD ANY WORLD SURVIVE THE LIKES OF US?"



"THE LIKES OF ME?"



I THINK HE UNDERSTOOD ON SOME LEVEL. THE JOKER. NOT ENTIRELY, OF COURSE. HE WAS TOO SINGLE-MINDED FOR THAT, BUT HE SAW THE **POTENTIAL**.

HE **SAW** THAT THE TWO OF US WERE **INCOMPLETE** WITHOUT THE OTHER.

HE KNEW THAT WE NEEDED TO EVOLVE INTO SOMETHING NEW, TOGETHER.

SOMETHING MORE.

HE USED TO CALL ME A BAT-KING, RULING OVER MY DARK KINGDOM. AND WHAT **IS** A KING, REALLY? IT'S A POWERFUL CARD. THE HIGHEST VALUED FACE CARD IN THE DECK.

NOT INFALLIBLE, TO BE SURE, BUT **POTENT**.

AND THE JOKER CARD? ON ITS OWN IT HAS NO INHERENT VALUE. IT'S DEFINED BY WHAT IT'S PLAYED AGAINST. DANGEROUS IN ITS POTENTIAL MORE THAN ANYTHING..

BUT IF YOU HOLD THE TWO TOGETHER IN A HAND, THEY CAN HOLD NEARLY ANY VALUE. THEY CAN SHIFT AND ADAPT TO ANY THREAT THEY FACE.

AND SO CAN I.

THAT'S WHAT'S SO FRIGHTENING, ISN'T IT? YOU'VE PLAYED THIS GAME SO MANY TIMES, AND YOU CAN SEE THE CARDS ON THE TABLE...

YOU KNOW THAT I HAVE ALREADY WON AGAINST ANY HAND YOU COULD PLAY AGAINST ME, BUT YOU HAVEN'T PUT TOGETHER **NOW** I'M GOING TO DO IT YET.

NOW COULD IT GET WORSE? WHAT ELSE COULD WE HAVE UP OUR SLEEVES?!

YOU WANT TO **SEE**, DON'T YOU?

YOU'RE TERRIFIED, BUT YOU'RE JUST DYING TO FIND OUT...

HERE. LET ME SHOW YOU...

THE HEROES, THEY'RE NEARLY DEAD ALREADY...THEIR CITIES HAVE FALLEN... THIS WHOLE WORLD HAS BEGUN TO **SINK** INTO THE INFINITE DARK BELOW.

MMPH!

MMMPPH!





"THEY'RE
COMING."

"EVERY NIGHTMARE THIS
MULTIVERSE HAS EVER HAD,

"THEY ARE ARMED AND READY FOR
INVASION. WAITING FOR THE DOOR TO
OPEN. WAITING FOR MY COMMAND."

WHEN I WAS BRUCE WAYNE, I THOUGHT WITH ENOUGH PREPARATION, I WOULD ALWAYS WIN. BUT I WAS **WRONG**.

I WAS TRAPPED IN AN UNWINNABLE WAR, REFUSING TO SEE THE OBVIOUS ANSWERS **RIGHT** IN FRONT OF ME. THE ANSWERS THAT ARE SO **CLEAR** TO ME NOW WITH VICTORY RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER.

TO WIN YOU NEED TO **ADAPT**, AND TO **ADAPT**, YOU NEED TO BE ABLE TO **LAUGH** AWAY ALL THE RESTRAINTS. **EVERYTHING** HOLDING YOU BACK.

YOU SEE... A BATMAN WHO **LAUGHS**...

...IS A BATMAN WHO ALWAYS WINS.

TO BE CONTINUED: IN **METAL #4** AND **THE WILD HUNT**

From the pages of
DARK NIGHTS: METAL

**THE
CHILDREN OF
ADAM**

THE IMMORTAL MEN

**JAMES
TYNION
IN
JIM
LEE**

A new monthly series
DECEMBER



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JUSTICE LEAGUE

in theaters **NOVEMBER 17**

A **DC** ALL ACCESS INTERVIEW WITH **BEN AFFLECK**

What's happened to Bruce since we left him in *Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice*?

At the end of *Batman v Superman*, we leave Bruce fearful that there is an attack coming. He now wants to gather up as many metahumans as he possibly can. So, he's

in the sort of nascent stages of team-building. This movie starts with Bruce actively recruiting, looking, researching and trying to find these superhumans that he believes are out there.

Some of them are more willing to come along than others. What are the different reactions that he gets when he starts tracking people down?

He is not met with enthusiasm by everybody that he encounters. Some people are a little bit more reluctant to join up and be part of the team. The Flash signs right up, but it takes some convincing for Aquaman to join the League. Cyborg also requires some encouragement from Wonder Woman. But, together, we collectively start to assemble this group, and

eventually they come around and realize that there's a need for us to work together.

How has the relationship with Alfred expanded?

The Bruce/Alfred relationship continues in the vein we saw in *Batman v Superman*, where Alfred's a little bit sardonic and kind of gives Bruce a hard time. He's the one who can kind of let the air out of Bruce Wayne's balloon in a way that keeps him grounded.

JK Simmons plays Commissioner Gordon, who has an interesting relationship with Bruce Wayne and Gotham. Tell me about working with JK and what this Commissioner Gordon is like.

Well, I did another movie with JK called *The Accountant*, and I got to know him and really like him. He's a fine actor and was great in *Whiplash*. He's a perfect Commissioner Gordon because he can play that kind of realism that just feels world-weary and gritty, like a guy who has been working the beat of Gotham for decades, and JK lends a real gravitas to the role.

**DON'T MISS
JUSTICE LEAGUE DAY ON 11/18/17**

Visit dccomics.com/JLday for more details!

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